tobacco companies and that indirect advertising, naming Championship Cup after brand name or use of logo without display of the actual product should be allowed.

Train Services from Kerala to Howrah

217. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that people of Kerala are facing hardships in the absence of Superfast train from Keala to Howrah;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make Howrah-Trivandrum and Howrah-Cochin Express as superfast thereby reduce the running time;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government also propose to increase the frequency of the trains;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Some representations have been received for a superfast train between Kerala and Howrah.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does Not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Operational and resource constraints.

Introduction of Summer Special Trains

218. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of summer special trains introduced during the summer period, zone-wise; and

(b) the number of passengers carried by these summer special trains, zone-wise, till date ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Figures regarding number of passengers carried by individual trains/specials are not maintained.

Guwahati Rajdhani Express

219. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken a steps to run Guwahati Rajdhani daily instead of triweek

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to remove the hurdles to run daily;

(d) whether the Government are considering to r this train under the jurisdiction of N.F. Railway; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILA PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The frequency of 2423/242 Guwahati Rajdhani was increased from weekly to tri-weekl from 26.1.96. It will also be extended to Dibrugarh Town once a week during 1997-98. However, presently it is not feasible to run it daily due to operational and resource constraints.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) New Delhi–Guwahati triweekly Rajdhani Express is maintained at New Delhi alongwith biweekly Bhubaneswar Rajdhani Express. As both the trains are not daily, common maintenance point at New Delhi enables optimal utilisation of facilities as well as coaches kept as maintenance spare. Therefore, at present, it is not desirable to shift maintenance of Guwahati–Rajdhani to Guwahati.

Running of Trains in Kerala

220. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the trains in Kerala are running irregularly; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The punctuality performance of trains running in Kerala is satisfactory. However, the running of trains get affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations, alarm-chain pulling, miscreant acti-